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Father Sentenced to 21 Years to Life for Fatally Stabbing Toddler

A man was sentenced to 21 years to life in state prison today for stabbing his young daughter to death at their North Hollywood apartment and then setting the room on fire, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Noe Torres, 50, pleaded no contest to one count each of second-degree murder and arson of an inhabited structure or property and was immediately sentenced by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Susan Speer. He also admitted an allegation of using a dangerous and deadly weapon, a knife, as part of the negotiated plea agreement.

On Oct. 21, 2016, Torres stabbed 13-month-old Rosario T. with a knife during an argument with the girl's mother at their apartment in the 13000 block of Vanowen Street, according to testimony during the preliminary hearing. He then set fire to the second-story apartment, stabbed himself and jumped out of a window while partly engulfed in flames.

The victim died at the scene.

Deputy District Attorney Richard Quinones prosecuted case LAo84593.

The Los Angeles Police Department, Juvenile Division, investigated the case.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.